

NEWPORT EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

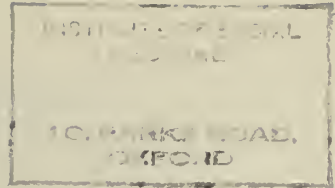
Medical Inspection of School Children.

THIRTY-NINTH
ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1946.

BY
H. W. CATTO, M.D., D.P.H.

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER.



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ANNUAL REPORT.

To the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the thirty-ninth Annual Report of the School Medical Officer for the year ended December 31st, 1946.

STAFF.

The Medical Staff is now the same as it was in 1939, before the outbreak of the war.

THE SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE IN RELATION TO MAINTAINED PRIMARY SCHOOLS (INCLUDING MODERN SECONDARY)

MEDICAL INSPECTION.

The arrangements for carrying out Medical Inspection at the Schools have been described in previous reports.

The following groups of primary school children (including Modern Secondary) were examined during the year:—

A. Routine Medical Inspection—			
Entrants	...	...	1,216
Second age group	...	...	—
Third age group	...	...	913
			— 2,129
B. Other Inspections—			
Special Inspections	...	...	9,884
Re-inspections	...	...	4,038

FINDINGS OF MEDICAL INSPECTION.

MALNUTRITION.

Of the 2,129 children examined at the routine inspections, 303 were found to be suffering from slight subnormal nutrition; 1 case of bad nutrition was recorded.

UNCLEANLINESS.

Regular visits were paid to all the Primary Schools (including Modern Secondary) during the year, the average number being three per school.

38,763 examinations of boys and girls were made, and 1,375 children were found to be unclean, of whom 105 had vermin and 1,270 nits only.

The problems of scabies and pediculosis have not been so acute as in some other areas. During the year there has been a decrease in scabies, but there has been an increase in pediculosis, the search for which has been tightened up since the end of the war. Nevertheless, scabies is still very prevalent. There were 409 cases dealt with during the year (11 were carried from 1945) as compared with 539 cases for 1945, 686 for 1944, 599 for 1943, 636 for 1942, 448 for 1941, 178 for 1940 and 101 for 1939.

MINOR AILMENTS AND DISEASES OF SKIN.

The total number of minor ailments and diseases of the skin dealt with during the year was 3,196, compared with 3,447 for 1945. These were composed of the following: Minor Ailments, 1,577; Ringworm of Scalp, 12; Ringworm of Body, 84; Scabies, 409; Impetigo, 423; Other Skin Diseases, 691.

VISUAL DEFECTS AND EXTERNAL EYE DISEASES.

There were 968 cases of defective vision, 273 of whom had squint, a decrease on 1945, when the figures were 1,027, of whom 325 had squint. 177 of the total were found during routine examinations at the Schools. The remainder were cases referred to the Clinic or followed up from previous years.

There were 318 cases of external eye disease as compared with 317 for the previous year. These were made up as follows: Blepharitis, 39; Conjunctivitis, 90; Keratitis, 2; Corneal Opacities, 1; Other Eye Conditions, 186.

NOSE AND THROAT DEFECTS.

The total number of defects of Nose and Throat dealt with was 2,229. There were 37 cases of Chronic Tonsillitis only, 2 of Adenoids only, 1,361 of Chronic Tonsillitis and Adenoids, and 829 other conditions.

EAR DISEASES AND DEFECTIVE HEARING.

The total number of cases of ear disease and defective hearing dealt with was 472, as compared with 578 for 1945. These comprised 36 cases for defective hearing, 224 of Otitis Media, and 212 other conditions.

DENTAL DEFECTS.

Seven Primary Schools were visited during the year by the Dentists for Inspection purposes. 2,901 routine cases and 135 special were examined; 2,849 of these were found to require treatment.

Seven half-days were devoted to inspection and 891 half-days to treatment.
5,092 attendances were made by the children at the treatment centre at the Clinic.

ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS.

There were 1,240 cases of Orthopaedic and Postural Defects dealt with during the year.

The following is a list of children dealt with at the Orthopaedic Clinic which is run in conjunction with the Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme:—

	Maintained Primary (Including Modern Secondary)			Maintained Secondary (Including Technical)		
	B.	G.	Total.	B.	G.	Total.
Infantile Paralysis	5	5	10	1	—	1
Infantile Hemiplegia	1	6	7	—	—	—
Diplegia	1	2	3	—	—	—
Erbs Paralysis	—	1	1	—	—	—
Spastic Paraplegia	2	1	3	—	—	—
Spinal Curvature	19	33	52	12	8	20
Perthe's Disease	5	—	5	—	—	—
Torticollis	5	2	7	1	—	1
Spina Bifida	1	2	3	—	—	—
Epiphysitis	—	—	—	—	2	2
Rickets (Bow Legs)	7	6	13	4	1	5
Flat Feet	118	122	240	43	67	110
Calcaneo Valgus	62	58	120	7	17	24
Pes Cavus	7	4	11	—	5	5
Talipes	5	1	6	2	—	2
Hallux Valgus	—	1	1	—	2	2
Hammer Toe	3	5	8	6	2	8
Knock Knees	27	24	51	1	2	3
Congenital Dislocation of Hip	—	2	2	—	—	—
Metatarsus Varus	7	3	10	—	—	—
Chondromata	1	—	1	—	—	—
Cyst of Right Tibia	1	—	1	—	—	—
Arthritis	—	1	1	—	—	—
Inversion of Feet	5	2	7	—	1	1
Amyotonia Congenita	—	2	2	—	—	—
Schlatter's Disease	—	—	—	—	1	1
Coxa Vara	1	1	2	—	—	—
Other Conditions	20	21	41	14	5	19
	303	305	608	91	113	204

1,534 attendances were made by these children at the Orthopaedic Clinic.

I wish here to thank Dr. Laird for the information supplied and to express my appreciation of her willingness at all times to be of assistance to the School Medical Service.

HEART DISEASE AND RHEUMATISM.

During the medical inspections, 162 cases of heart conditions came under observation, 61 being classified Organic and 101 as Functional. There were also 12 cases of Rheumatism encountered during the year.

BERCULOSIS.

49 cases of Tuberculosis of all kinds were dealt with during the year. The varieties were Pulmonary: finite 2, Suspected 10; Non-Pulmonary: Glands 35, Bones and Joints 1; Other Forms 1.

OTHER DEFECTS AND DISEASES.

1,572 cases came under observation during the year. They comprised the following:—Diseases of the Alimentary tract such as Stomatitis, Gastritis, Enteritis, Appendicitis, etc.; Diseases of the Genito-Urinary organs, such as Nephritis, Cystitis, Enuresis, etc.; Infectious Diseases, Major Injuries, Rheumatism, etc.

FOLLOWING UP.

The number of visits to homes for "following up" purposes was 1,289 for maintained Primary School children (including Modern Secondary), and 260 in the case of maintained Secondary (including Technical).

ARRANGEMENTS FOR TREATMENT.

Special arrangements for treatment have up to now been in operation, but these will have to be considerably expanded to meet the requirements of the new Education Act, under which parents are no longer required to pay for the treatment given. In pursuance of this the Education Committee having become responsible for the hospital treatment of all children attending Maintained Primary and Secondary Schools, have assumed all financial responsibility for these cases which have been dealt with at the Royal Gwent Hospital for the most part. It is intended to make similar arrangements with the local authority at Woolston House.

NUTRITION.

See paragraph dealing with Open Air Classes.

UNCLEANLINESS.

There is a Cleansing Station at the Clinic and this was utilised in 34 cases. In addition 333 children were treated by Liquid Derbac at Schools.

It was found possible to obtain the desired results in the remainder of the cases from treatment at home.

MINOR AILMENTS AND DISEASES OF THE SKIN.

The total number of minor ailments and diseases of the skin treated during the year was 3,196, of whom 3,131 received treatment at the Clinic and 65 elsewhere. These were made up as follows:—

	Treated Clinic.	Treated elsewhere.
Minor Ailments	1,569	8
Ringworm of Scalp	12	—
Ringworm of Body	84	—
Scabies	404	5
Impetigo	419	4
Other Skin Diseases	643	48

The total attendances for treatment made by children from maintained Primary and maintained Secondary Schools was 19,111.

VISUAL DEFECTS AND EXTERNAL EYE DISEASES.

Mr. F. W. Robertson, the Ophthalmic Surgeon, specially appointed by the Education Committee for this work in 1932, held 100 sessions during the year, and he reports as follows:—

“During the year 1,145 cases were examined for defective vision, making an average of 11.45. In addition 13 special cases were examined.

The following are the details of those cases with defective vision:—

	No. of Cases	Squint	Myopia	Myopic Astigmatism	Hypermetropia	Hypermetropic Astigmatism	Mixed Astigmatism	Observation	Abnormality
Maintained Primary (including Modern Secondary)	758	207	32	81	47	200	44	119	28
Maintained Secondary (including Technical)	294	11	58	93	16	61	17	31	7
Nursery	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
M. & C. W. Dept.	90	73	—	—	1	5	1	4	6
Occupation Centre	2	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
	1,145	292	90	175	64	267	62	154	41
		25.5%	23.1%	28.9%	5.4%	13.4%	3.5%		

It will be observed that 292 cases of squint were dealt with. As this is one of the conditions where great benefit results from early treatment and advice, I give the following details of this group:

Divergent	...	...	...	4
Alternating	...	...	...	55
Convergent	...	...	...	233

In 12 cases one eye was amblyopic.

In the course of the year I have operated on quite a number of children for squint and other conditions requiring surgical treatment. Unfortunately, owing to the bed accommodation problem, school children on the waiting list has definitely increased.

There were 265 cases of myopia and myopic astigmatism.

- 5 had a total error of over 10 dioptries.
- 34 had a total error of between 5 and 10 dioptries.
- 96 had a total error of between 2 and 5 dioptries.
- 130 had a total error of between 0 and 2 dioptries.

As far as possible all myopes are re-examined at less than 12 monthly intervals, and special attention paid to those cases which show a definite tendency to increase. Cases with over 10 dioptries myopia and progressing are advised re special training.

There were 331 cases of hypermetropia and hypermetropic astigmatism.

- 49 had a total error of between 5 and 10 dioptries.
- 133 had a total error of between 2 and 5 dioptries.
- 149 had a total error of between 0 and 2 dioptries.

There were 62 cases of mixed astigmatism.

- 4 had a total error of between 5 and 10 dioptries.
- 45 had a total error of between 2 and 5 dioptries.
- 13 had a total error of between 0 and 2 dioptries.

The 41 special cases were found to be suffering from some pathological or congenital defect. The following are the details:—

Corneal Leucomata	...	10	Myopic Degeneration	...	1
Congenital Cataract	...	5	Aphakia	...	2
Congenital Ptosis	...	6	Spasm of Accommodation	...	3
Congenital Nystagmus	...	5	Old Iritis	...	4
Epicanthus	...	2	Partial Albino	...	1
Retina Pigmentosa	...	1	Optic Neuritis	...	1

There were a further 13 special cases. Some of these were for the purpose of checking up their lenses, but the majority were eye inflammations and injuries referred by the School Medical Officers. Several of these cases I had to refer to my clinic at the Royal Gwent Hospital for special treatment or operation."

277 cases of external eye disease were treated at the Clinic and 41 elsewhere.

NOSE AND THROAT DEFECTS.

486 cases were operated on during the year for Tonsils and Adenoids. The sources from which they came were as follows:—

	Boys	Girls	Total
Maintained Primary Schools (including Modern Secondary) ...	240	203	443
Secondary Schools (including Technical) ...	9	11	20
Nursery Schools ...	1	1	2
Maternity and Child Welfare Dept. ...	10	11	21

The operations were performed at Woolston House by Mr. Sutton, the Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon.

At the end of the year 1946 the waiting list for operation for the removal of Tonsils and Adenoids was as follows:—Maintained Primary and Maintained Secondary Schools, 965; Maternity & Child Welfare Dept., 37. Total 1,047.

EAR DISEASES AND DEFECTIVE HEARING.

421 cases of ear disease and defective hearing were treated at the Clinic and 51 elsewhere.

AURAL CLINIC.

This Aural Clinic is held for the purpose of treating chronic ear conditions with a view to the prevention of deafness, and 22 sessions were held during the year under review.

226 children were examined and the sources from which they came are as follows:—Maintained Primary Schools (including Modern Secondary) 165; Maintained Secondary Schools (including Technical) 24; Maternity & Child Welfare Dept. 37.

The total number of attendances made at the Clinic by these children was 369.

The following gives details of the cases dealt with:—

	No.	Cured	Still under treatment	Discontinued treatment	No Treatment required at present	Recommended T. & A. Op.	Recommended for Special School
Chronic Otitis Media ...	93	44	39	7	—	3	—
Acute Otitis Media ...	46	37	4	2	—	3	—
Nasal Polypus ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Eustachian Otitis ...	5	5	—	—	—	—	—
Deafness ...	43	10	18	5	—	10	—
Other Conditions ...	31	16	4	2	4	5	—
Observation ...	8	—	—	—	8	—	—
	226	112	65	16	12	21	—

Arrangements are in existence with the Social Welfare Committee for operative treatment, when necessary, to be carried out at their Institution at 131 Stow Hill. During the year 6 children were operated for various conditions that might have led to deafness.

DENTAL DEFECTS.

2,038 Maintained Primary School children (including Modern Secondary) were treated at the Clinic during the year.

561 teeth were filled, 556 being permanent teeth and 5 temporary teeth.

4,212 teeth were extracted, 561 permanent, 3,651 temporary.

1,004 nitrous oxide gas administrations were given, and most of the other extractions were done under local anaesthetics.

568 other operations were performed.

ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS.

During the year 14 Maintained Primary School children and 4 Maintained Secondary School children received operative treatment at the Prince of Wales Orthopaedic Hospital, Cardiff, and 189 children were given massage or fitted with appliances, etc., at the Orthopaedic Clinic of the Maternity and Child Welfare Department.

1,208 attendances were made by the children at the Orthopaedic Clinic for massage and exercises.

ART DISEASES AND RHEUMATISM.

This type of case is referred to the private practitioner for appropriate treatment, and in some cases admission to a Special School is recommended.

TUBERCULOSIS.

All cases of Tuberculosis are dealt with by the local Tuberculosis Officer, to whom we refer cases, and he notifies us of cases reaching him from other sources.

He also examines other members of the family to which children found to be Tuberculous belong. He is responsible for domiciliary treatment and arranges for institutional treatment as required.

The Tuberculosis scheme in Newport, like the rest of Wales, is administered by the Welsh National Memorial Association.

OTHER DEFECTS AND DISEASES.

Most of these conditions are found to be of such a nature as to be best treated by the patients' own Doctors.

Major injuries, which come under this group, such as fractures, etc., are referred to the Royal Gwent Hospital.

ARTIFICIAL LIGHT.

This form of treatment has been carried out as in the past years at the Maternity and Child Welfare Department, and I have to thank Dr. Davies for the information from which the following table has been completed.

Conditions for which treated	No. treated	Average period of treatment wks.	Maximum period of treatment wks.	Min. period of treatm't wks.	Average number of doses	Max. number of doses	Min. number of doses	Average strength of dose mins.	Max. strength of dose mins.	Min. strength of dose mins.
Debility and Nervous Debility	28	8½	26	1½	17	52	3	6.5	12	1
Chronic Bronchitis, Bronchial Asthma	20	8½	18½	½	17	37	1	8.7	12	1
Cervical Adenitis (T.B. and Non-T.B.)	8	10½	16	6½	21	32	13	7.6	12	1
Rheumatism	5	9	12	6	18	24	12	7.5	12	1
Other Conditions	4	6½	15	2	13	30	4	6.2	12	1
	65	—	—							

The number of children treated during the year was 65, and 1,265 attendances were made. The cases were treated by Mercury Vapour and Carbon Arc Lamps.

Analysis of the case records reveal the following facts:—

	No. of cases	Improvement in General Health.		
		Very much improved	Improved	No change
Debility and Nervous Debility	28	1	21	6
Chronic Bronchitis, Bronchial Asthma	20	—	13	7
Cervical Adenitis (T.B. and Non-T.B.)	8	—	7	1
Rheumatism	5	1	4	—
Other Conditions	4	—	1	3
	65	2	46	17

The above are the opinions of the Medical Officers. The Parents' opinions differed very little from them.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The total number of cases of infectious disease occurring among school children was 1,145, made up as follows:—Scarlet Fever 139, Diphtheria 113, Typhoid Fever 0, Measles 22, Whooping Cough 309, Chicken Pox 216, Mumps 346.

Diphtheria immunisations during the year totalled 347 and in addition 90 children received boosting doses.

OPEN AIR CLASSES

These classes were held for the twenty-seventh year in succession. Classes were held in the Beechwood House, Beechwood Park; Brynglas School grounds and Tredegar Park, and commenced on 3rd June, 1946, with 40, 41 and 40 pupils, respectively.

The classes remained open throughout the school holiday periods, the children attended on a voluntary basis.

The Tredegar Park and Brynglas Open Air Classes closed owing to the inclement weather on the 2nd September, 1946. It was decided that the Beechwood Open Air Class, in view of the additional room facilities made available by the Parks Committee in the Beechwood House, could be carried on throughout the year. During the winter session, there were 23 children on the registers and the class has maintained an average attendance of approximately 17 pupils per day.

The mid-day meals for Beechwood and Tredegar Park classes were provided by arrangement with the Emergency and Communal Feeding Committee from a Cooking Depot, and the Brynglas School Canteen provided the meals for the Brynglas Open Air Class.

PHYSICAL TRAINING.

The following are abridged reports on Physical Training for the year 1946, by Miss E. M. Williams, Miss Rose K. Hill and Mr. H. A. Oberholzer.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION REPORT, JANUARY-OCTOBER, 1946.

Physical Education during January-October, 1946, has been hampered firstly by the presence of Air Raid shelters and Static Water Tanks, and secondly by their removal which resulted in broken playground surfaces for several weeks.

In spite of these interruptions, Physical Education has progressed steadily and a great improvement in 'foot-consciousness' has been noted, due largely to the provision of gym shoes by the Education Committee. More children are taking off their top clothes for their Physical Education lessons, but more thorough changing is to be expected when the allocation of gymnastic clothing by the Education Committee is complete.

Two Teachers' Courses have been held, one in the Spring Term for Senior Girls' in Stow Hill School, and the second in the Summer Term for Junior Girls' in St. Woolos Girls' School.

Swimming lessons have been given regularly throughout the year, and the high standard in swimming has been maintained. It was with great regret that we had to say "good-bye" to Mrs. Calvo, the Swimming Instructress, when she left Newport. It was due, almost entirely, to Mrs. Calvo's excellent teaching that the girls' swimming has reached such a high standard. Mrs. Allen, who followed Mrs. Calvo, has already proved herself a worthy successor.

1,035 Swimming Certificates have been awarded, but this is a most unsatisfactory way of estimating the standard of swimming, for it does not mean that 1,035 children have gained certificates and no Authority should be proud or satisfied until provision is made for all children to have adequate swimming instruction in their school life.

On October 3rd a team of Newport girls went to the Bristol Inter City Gala and were a very good second in Bristol in the contest.

There has been an improvement in the numbers attending the Parks for field games, and all schools are looking forward to the new arrangements when transport will mean more regular attendance, conserved energy in the playing of games and no wasted time in the normal school routine.

E. M. WILLIAMS.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION REPORT, NOVEMBER-DECEMBER, 1946.

After a short survey of the Physical Education in the Schools, the following points are noteworthy.

PHYSICAL TRAINING.

The work already seen is of a fairly good standard. Regular training during the winter months is difficult because of the lack of indoor halls and because in schools which have halls they are used as canteens or as extra classrooms. The number of lessons given each week varies from two to three periods of 30 minutes each. In the faint schools the children have a 20 minutes daily lesson. This is of great value and I feel the older children could benefit greatly from a daily period of activity.

ORGANISED GAMES.

I understand that during the war the children could not use the playing fields because of inadequate air raid shelter. This explains why the games standard is low; difficulties are still great and regular training is not possible. Staff and children are keen and enthusiastic and there will be no difficulty in getting a higher standard when conditions are easier. It will be a great help when playgrounds are marked and when transport is available to take the children to the Parks where the existing facilities are good. The Somerton Park ground will be most useful when it is restored to its pre-war condition.

SWIMMING.

The standard of school swimming is excellent; the swimming tests are carefully graded so that beginners and good swimmers can be tested regularly and thus improve their own standard. The following certificates were gained:—

258	25 yds. Free Style.
197	25 yds. Back Stroke.
215	50 yds. Breast Stroke.
148	440 yds. Free Style.
99	150 yds. Breast and Back Stroke.
61	Proficiency.
28	Speed.
5	Diving.
8	Style.
16	Medallion.

1035

BOAT SAVING.

Separate classes are held for instruction in hand drill, resuscitation of the apparently drowned, practical work in release and rescue methods.

The following certificates and medallions have been gained :—

Elementary	...	84
Intermediate	...	66
Bronze	...	47
Bar to Bronze	...	6
		203

ROSE K. HILL,
Organiser of Physical Training

ABRIDGED REPORT ON PHYSICAL TRAINING FOR THE YEAR 1946.

PHYSICAL TRAINING.

Despite a considerable change in the personnel of all schools, the interest taken in Physical Training and Recreation was satisfactory.

The general instruction given was good and lessons were taken regularly whenever weather conditions permitted.

Every encouragement was given in order to promote a healthy, keen and competitive team spirit in all physical activities. Hence lessons have been better, brighter and more beneficial.

The introduction of a system of Basic Movements embracing a direct objective training has been pursued.

The popularity of exercises which have a sporting bias undoubtedly provided an incentive for bodily exercise by virtue of their purposeful nature.

The removal of air raid shelters has given more playing space, allowing the teacher a greater scope in the planning of class activity.

All schools were supplied with sufficient physical training and sports equipment by the Education Committee to meet their needs. The number of lessons per week and the time allotted to each class still varied considerably. In my last report stress was laid upon the importance of regular systematic exercises, and I had hoped that all schools would introduce three periods of 30 minutes into their curriculum, in order to comply as near as possible to the Ministry's suggestion of a daily period. In a number of schools this has been carried out with good results as evident by the increased efficiency of the work seen.

It is also suggested that during inclement weather conditions when physical training cannot be taken, the allotted period should be devoted to the teaching of Elementary Physiology and Hygiene, with a distinct emphasis on the resuscitation of the apparently drowned, in order to link up with the Life Saving Instruction given at the Baths. The older children could be taught First Aid and talks given on the rules and playing of team games, etc. A brief report was submitted to the Education Committee with regard to the effect of school feeding in which reference was made to the fact that "no child in school today, provided he has taken advantage of the facilities given, was below par, or unable to partake of physical training or games, because of lack of food." It is surprising to note that over this long period of austerity the average boy today is taller and in every way better physically than was the case previous to the introduction of school feeding and the regular supply of milk. Swimming endurance and record times established during the year, prove these facts.

ORGANISED GAMES.

Whenever weather conditions were suitable a limited number of children visited the Public Parks and Recreation Fields for organised games. Due to the lack of suitable playing spaces and the long distance necessary to travel to reach grounds, many schools have been unable to participate in organised games. In other cases, the number of children has had to be limited. It is hoped that in the near future this may be overcome by the provision of transport facilities. A report has been submitted, and arrangements made to provide buses as soon as the necessary details can be arranged.

It is interesting to report that 17 schools have been playing Association Football matches regularly each week under the auspices of the Schools' Football Association.

Up to the present time no inter school Rugby games have been played.

During October a detailed list of the grounds available for sports and the day and time set out for each school session was duly circularised.

During the summer a start was made to revive Cricket and Baseball, but owing to the difficulty of obtaining equipment from manufacturers and the bad weather experienced, little progress was made. There is every indication that both these codes will be in full swing next year.

ATHLETICS.

A number of schools successfully held their own Athletic Meeting. Both Standardised and Competitive Physical Efficiency Tests were held with marked success.

No Inter-School Sports were organised, but it is hoped that some form of competitive athletics on a regular basis will be in operation next year.

SWIMMING.

Schools attended the Baths regularly under the supervision of Teachers at definite times according to the time-table arranged for their instruction.

The general standard of efficiency was excellent, and during the year the records achieved in competitive matches clearly demonstrated that the pupils of the Newport Schools can hold their own with any town in the country. This is especially so as regard to junior swimming up to 14½ years of age. At the Inter-Town Gala held in Bristol, a six aside team of Newport Juniors swam 200 yards in 120 seconds. This splendid achievement has only been made possible by the help, encouragement and facilities granted by the Education Committee, together with the loyal support and co-operation of the Baths Superintendent, Teachers and Swimming Instructors.

A number of schools organised their own Gala, with marked success. All parents were invited. Points were awarded to all who achieved the standard time set for each event, or who won the style tests. The House gaining the highest number of points was declared the winner.

The number of Swimming Certificates and Awards gained during the year ended December 31st are as follows:—

1.	25 yards Free Style	...	...	...	344
2.	25 yards Back Swimming	...	...	...	241
3.	50 yards Breast Stroke	...	...	...	243
4.	440 yards Free Style	...	...	...	198
5.	Proficiency Test	...	...	...	162
6.	Speed Test	...	...	...	16
7.	Diving Test	...	...	...	26
8.	75 yards Breast Stroke, 75 yards Back Stroke	...	...	...	157
9.	Style Test	...	...	...	10
10.	Badge of Merit	...	...	...	40
Total					1,437

LIFE SAVING.

Regular instruction was given in all branches of Life Saving and the results achieved were good, showing an increase of 119 awards over last year's figures.

The new method of rescue by means of the "Unigrip" was taught and over a hundred boys were successful in passing the examination.

The results obtained are as follows:—

1.	Unigrip Certificate	...	114
2.	Elementary Certificate	...	65
3.	Intermediate Certificate	...	40
4.	Bronze Medallion	...	15
5.	Bar to Bronze Medallion	...	3
Total			237

An invitation from the Bristol Corporation to compete in an Inter-Town Swimming Contest together with Meltonham was accepted. As already stated the Newport Junior Team did exceedingly well. A detailed report of the Competition was submitted to the Education Committee.

Members of the Youth Institutes and Voluntary organisations gained over 100 Swimming Certificates issued by the Local Authority.

(Signed) H. A. OBERHOLZER,
Organiser of Physical Education.

PROVISION OF MEALS.

Dinners are now provided in thirty Canteens in exchange for payment of the cost of food only, and, in necessitous cases, free of charge.

During the year ended 31st December, 1946, 758,358 meals were served. These figures are in excess of those for the previous year.

In this connection, the arrangements initiated by the Education Committee in October, 1934, for the provision of milk to school children, in consequence of the circular of the Board of Education, No. 1437, were continued during 1946. The number of bottles of milk supplied during the year 1946 was 2,853,397. From 1st August, 1946, one-third pint of milk was, in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Education, made daily available to all school children free of charge.

CO-OPERATION OF PARENTS.

Every encouragement is given to parents to be present at the examination of their children and they respond well.

At the routine inspections the percentage attendance of parents was 91.6 in the case of entrants, and 71.5 for the third age group, and for the combined age groups, 71.7 per cent. These attendances are set out in tabular form below.

	No. of Boys Examined	No. of Parents Present	Per cent of Parents Present	No. of Girls Examined	No. of Parents Present	Per cent. of Parents Present	Total Boys and Girls Examined	No. of Parents Present	Per cent. of Parents Present
Entrants	612	551	90.0	604	563	93.2	1,216	1,114	91.6
Second Age Group	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Third Age Group	461	180	39.0	452	236	52.2	913	416	45.5
	1,073	731	68.1	1,056	799	75.6	2,129	1,530	71.7

At the Clinic a parent attends in practically every case where there is any defect above the trivial.

CO-OPERATION OF TEACHERS, SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OFFICERS, ETC.

Thanks are due to the Teachers, School Attendance Officers and the Inspectors of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, for the help that they continue to give.

The Newport Home Nursing Association made 3,718 visits to the homes of school children, and gave treatment for numerous conditions, including Pneumonia, Bronchitis, Rheumatism, Ear Conditions, Wounds, Abscesses, etc.

HANDICAPPED PUPILS.

Inasmuch as each local authority has not a sufficient number of handicapped pupils to run a school for their own area, it will probably be found in the long run that the only way to meet the contingency is the provision of facilities by a combination of local authorities, of which the Newport County Borough will be a member.

The Committee are considering entering into some arrangement for the examination and treatment of maladjusted children. Similarly, the appointment of a Speech Therapist is also in contemplation and will be made as soon as the services of a Speech Therapist can be obtained.

BLIND.—There is one boy at the Glamorgan Residential School for the Blind, Bridgend, and one boy at The Royal Normal College for the Blind, Rowton Castle, near Shrewsbury.

PARTIALLY SIGHTED.—There are two boys and one girl at the Glamorgan Residential School for the Blind, Bridgend, and one boy at Sunshine Home, Leamington.

DEAF.—There are four boys and three girls at the Royal Cambrian Institution for the Deaf and one boy and one girl at The Mount, Stoke-on-Trent. In addition, one boy is attending a private Residential School for the Deaf and there is one girl awaiting admission to a Special School for the Deaf.

DELICATE PUPILS.—There are at present three boys and one girl at the North Devon Convalescent Childrens' Home, Lynton.

EDUCATIONALLY SUB-NORMAL.—There are special classes provided by the Education Committee at most of the schools for these cases. There are three girls at Monyhull Residential School, Birmingham.

Three boys and three girls were notified to the Committee for the Care of the Mentally Defective during the year.

EPILEPTICS.—There are three cases of severe epilepsy, one of whom is at Lingfield Epileptic Colony and two cases are awaiting admission to this Colony. There are 14 cases of less severe epilepsy recorded mainly on statements made by parents as to having had one or more fits.

MALADJUSTED.—There is one boy at Robin's Nest School, Camberley, Surrey, and one girl is awaiting admission to this school.

PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED.—There is one girl at the Heritage Crafts School, Chailey, one boy at the Shaftesbury Home for Crippled Boys, Hurst Lee, Sevenoaks, Kent, and two girls at the Childrens' Heart Home, Lancing. Also there are three boys and two girls awaiting admission to Special Schools.

MAINTAINED SECONDARY SCHOOLS (EXCLUDING MODERN SECONDARY).

The schools dealt with under this heading are The Newport High School, The Newport (St. Julian's) High School and the Junior and Full-time Technical College. All are provided by the Local Education Authority.

On the advice of the Board of Education, the examinations of this class of scholar now takes place at the age of 11 (Entrants), at the age of 15, and on leaving, instead of annually as before. The inspections are generally carried out during the Autumn term.

Visits are made for following up purposes during the other terms. Home visits are made by the Nurses as required.

The total number of Routines examined was 1,520, Special 1,058, and re-inspections 567.

Reference to Table III. shows the treatment received, the chief items being 294 for Defective Vision and Table IV. 196 for Dental Treatment.

At the Routine Inspections the parents attended in 52.3 per cent. of the cases.

EMPLOYMENT OF YOUNG CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS.

Certificates under the provisions of the Byelaws were issued in respect of 111 boys and 3 girls.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The medical officers at the Clinic have carried out the medical examinations of 259 trainees at the request of the Ministry of Education, and also carried out on behalf of the Education Committee the examination of appointees in the service of the Education Committee, for superannuation purposes.

67 Teachers and 23 Bursars were examined and reported on as to their fitness for their duties.

The following tables give the statistics of the work done in the form required by the Ministry of Education and the heights and weights of routine children examined during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. CATTO,

School Medical Officer.

The School Clinic,
26, Clytha Park Road,
Newport, Mon.

March, 1947.

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1946.

TABLE I.

Medical Inspections of Children attending Maintained Primary Schools (including Modern Secondary).

A.—Routine Medical Inspections.

Number of Inspections in the Prescribed Groups.

	Entrants	Second Age Group	Third Age Group	Other Routine Inspections	Total
Boys	612	—	461	—	1,073
Girls	604	—	452	—	1,056
Totals	1,216	—	913	—	2,129

B.—Other Inspections.

No. of Special Inspections and Re-Inspections ... 13,922

TABLE II.

Classification of the Nutrition of Children Inspected during the Year in the Routine Age Groups.

	Number of Children Inspected	A.		B.		C.		D.	
		(Excellent)		(Normal)		(Slightly subnormal)		(Bad)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants	1,216	128	10.52	967	79.52	120	9.86	1	.08
Second Age Group	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Third Age Group	913	118	12.92	612	67.03	183	20.04	—	—
Other Routine Inspections	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	2,129	246	11.55	1,579	74.16	303	14.23	1	.04

TABLE III.

Return of Defects treated during the year ended 31st December, 1946.

Group I.—Treatment of Minor Ailments (excluding uncleanliness).

Total number of defects treated or under treatment during the year under the Authority's Scheme 3,829

Group II.—Treatment of Defective Vision and Squint.

	Under the Authority's Scheme.
Errors of Refraction (including Squint)	758
Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I.)	—
Total	758

	Under the Authority's Scheme.
No. of Children for whom Spectacles were:	
(a) Prescribed	598
(b) Obtained	472

Group III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.

Received Operative Treatment	447
Received other forms of Treatment	4
Total number Treated	451

MEDICAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT RETURNS.

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1946.

TABLE I.

Medical Inspection of Children attending Maintained Secondary Schools (including Technical).

A—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTION.

Age	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	Grand Total
Boys	4	205	100	59	22	264	53	57	3	—	767
Girls	1	244	96	55	22	247	39	39	9	1	753
Totals	5	449	196	114	44	511	92	96	12	1	1,520

B.—Other Inspections.

No. of Special Inspections and Re-Inspections ... 1,625

TABLE II.

Classification of the Nutrition of Children inspected during the Year at Routine Medical Inspections.

Number of Children Inspected	A. (Excellent)		B. (Normal)		C. (Slightly subnormal)		D. (Bad)	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1,520	322	21.18	1,049	69.01	149	9.80	—	—

TABLE III.

Return of Defects treated during the year ended 31st December, 1946.

Group I.—Treatment of Minor Ailments (excluding uncleanness).

Total number of defects treated or under treatment during the year under the Authority's Scheme 200

Group II.—Treatment of Defective Vision and Squint.

	Under the Authority's Scheme.
Errors of Refraction (including Squint) ...	294
Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I.) ...	—
Total ...	294

No. of Children for whom Spectacles were:

	Under the Authority's Scheme.
(a) Prescribed ...	254
(b) Obtained ...	213

Group III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.

Received Operative Treatment ...	22
Received other forms of Treatment ...	—
Total number Treated ...	22

TABLE IV.—Dental Inspection and Treatment.

(1) Number of children inspected by the Dentist.

(a) Routine age groups.

Age	...	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	Total
Number	...	2	23	32	46	34	35	16	4	1	—	193

(b) Specials 49

(c) TOTAL (Routine and Specials) 242

(2) Number found to require treatment 239

(3) Number actually treated 196

(4) Attendances made by children for treatment 496

(5) Half days devoted to:

Inspection —

Treatment —

Total —

(7) Extractions:

Permanent Teeth ... 179

Temporary Teeth ... 51

Total ... 230

(6) Fillings:

Permanent Teeth ... 199

Temporary Teeth ... 2

Total ... 201

(8) Administration of general

anaesthetics for extractions 75

(9) Other operations:

Permanent Teeth ... 110

Temporary Teeth ... —

Total ... 110

Heights and Weights of Routine Examined Children in 1946.

Boys—Heights in inches, Weights in lbs.

Age	Primary (Including Modern Secondary)			Newport (St. Julian's) High School			Newport High School			Technical College		
	No. Taken	Av. H'ght	Av. W'ght	No. Taken	Av. H'ght	Av. W'ght	No. Taken	Av. H'ght	Av. W'ght	No. Taken	Av. H'ght	Av. W'ght
4	55	41.4	39.7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	447	42.4	41.9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6	86	45.4	46.2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7	17	46.0	48.6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8	4	48.0	52.9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9	1	52.9	69.3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10	2	50.9	60.5	...	...	...	4	54.3	66.6	...	...	...
11	...	...	...	120	55.8	77.4	85	56.0	78.1	...	...	...
12	...	...	...	83	57.2	83.8	16	57.6	84.5	1	58.2	91.3
13	432	58.1	89.4	10	57.6	87.5	2	61.1	107.1	47	58.8	90.8
14	29	60.3	99.0	2	32.3	103.6	...	...	...	20	60.5	97.2
15	...	...	...	134	64.6	120.1	59	65.5	120.1	71	63.9	123.3
16	...	...	...	20	66.0	128.7	28	66.3	127.6	5	64.5	119.4
17	...	...	...	28	69.1	144.7	28	67.3	132.9	1	63.7	106.7
18	...	...	...	2	69.2	136.8	1	67.1	145.2	...	...	...
19	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Girls.—Heights in inches, Weights in lbs.

Age	Primary (Including Modern Secondary)			Newport (St. Julian's) High School			Newport High School			Technical College		
	No. Taken	Av. H'ght	Av. W'ght	No. Taken	Av. H'ght	Av. W'ght	No. Taken	Av. H'ght	Av. W'ght	No. Taken	Av. H'ght	Av. W'ght
4	46	41.1	38.4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	447	42.3	40.6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6	92	44.6	45.3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7	12	47.0	47.3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8	5	48.6	56.0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9	2	51.2	58.5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	60.6	128.7	...	...	...
11	...	...	...	145	56.6	80.5	99	56.3	81.2	...	...	...
12	...	...	...	62	57.1	83.1	34	56.6	84.0	...	...	...
13	417	59.1	95.0	10	60.7	97.0	4	61.6	97.0	41	60.6	99.6
14	35	59.8	98.1	2	60.3	90.2	1	61.8	111.1	19	61.9	115.2
15	...	...	...	109	62.9	112.8	96	62.4	111.7	42	62.7	111.5
16	...	...	...	23	63.0	120.8	15	62.8	123.2	1	64.1	111.1
17	...	...	...	14	64.4	124.5	25	62.4	125.2	...	...	...
18	...	...	...	1	65.3	139.7	8	63.1	124.5	...	...	...
19	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	59.2	110.0	...	...	...

